

During 2004, 39,553 live births occurred to Kansas residents, representing a birth rate of 14.5 per 1,000 population. This was a 0.7 percent increase from the 2003 rate of 14.4. ([Table 5](#))

In 2004, Seward, Finney and Haskell counties had the highest county birth rates of 22.6, 20.5, and 20.1 births per 1,000 population respectively. Cherryvale, Garden City, and Liberal had the highest 2004 city birth rates of 27.0, 24.7, and 24.1 births per 1,000 population respectively. ([Tables 5 and 6](#), [Figure 13](#))

Seward, Geary and Finney counties had the highest five-year county birth rates of 23.0, 21.5, and 20.5 births per 1,000 population respectively. ([Table 5](#))

Since 1960, birth rates for Kansas have followed national trends and steadily declined. Kansas birth rates have decreased 18.5 percent during the last 40 years from a rate of 17.8 births per 1,000 population in 1965 to a rate of 14.5 in 2004. In 2004, the Kansas birth rate (14.5) was 3.6 percent higher than the national rate of 14.0. ([Table 7](#), [Figure 10](#))

Kansas fertility rates have followed national trends and indicate a steady decline from 93.3 to 69.6 births per 1,000 female population aged 15-44 in 1965 and 2004 respectively. The increase in the fertility rate from 1989 to 1990 and from 1999 to 2000 can be explained, in part, by the use of actual census counts for the 1990 and 2000 female population. The Kansas fertility rate in 2004 (69.6) was 4.8 percent higher than the national rate of 66.4. ([Table 7](#), [Figure 11](#))

Age-specific fertility rates for Kansas during the years 1995-2004 decreased 10.6 percent for the 15-24 age-group. Concurrently, age-specific fertility rates increased 14.3 percent for the 25-34 age-group and 23.2 percent for the 35-44 age-group. ([Table 8](#), [Figure 12](#))

In 2004, 38.2 percent of all Kansas live births occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group, 50.4 percent of live births occurred to women in the 25-34 age-group and 11.1 percent occurred to women in the 35-44 age-group. For comparison, in 2004, 23.7 percent of all Kansas live births had fathers in the 15-24 age-group, 54.5 percent had fathers in the 25-34 age-group, and 19.6 percent had fathers in the 35-44 age group. ([Tables 10 and 11](#))

Of the births to mothers 10-19 years of age, where the age of the father is known, over one-third (34.7 percent) of fathers were 10-19 while nearly two-thirds (65.3 percent) of fathers were 20 and over. ([Table 10](#))

Over nine percent (9.6) of live births in 2004 were preterm (less than 37 completed weeks of gestation) while 91 percent (90.4) occurred at 37 or more weeks of gestation. ([Table 12](#))

In 2004, 86.5 percent of all Kansas resident births were to mothers who received prenatal care that began in the first trimester (first 3 months) of pregnancy, 11.0 percent began in the second trimester, and 1.9 percent began in the third trimester. Less than 1 percent (0.6) received no prenatal care. ([Table 13](#))

Pregnancy Outcomes (Cont.)

Of the 39,553 Kansas resident live births in 2004, 81.3 percent received adequate or better prenatal care, including 26.8 percent with adequate-plus care; 18.7 percent received less than adequate prenatal care, including 8.7 percent with inadequate care. ([Table 14](#))

Decatur county had the highest percentage of mothers with adequate or better prenatal care (93.8 percent) followed by Doniphan (91.6 percent) and Butler counties (91.3 percent). Haskell county had the lowest percentage of adequate or better prenatal care (51.3 percent), followed by Lane (53.8 percent) and Scott counties (54.7 percent). ([Table 14](#))

In 2004, 81.2 percent of Kansas live births both occurred to women 15-34 years of age and weighed between 2,500-4,499 grams. ([Table 16](#))

Birth weights for Kansas live births in 2004 were distributed as follows: 7.3 percent of live births weighed under 2,500 grams (low birth weight), 91.4 percent weighed 2,500-4,499 grams (normal birth weight), and 1.3 percent weighed over 4,499 grams (heavy birth weight). ([Tables 15 and 16](#))

In 2004, 37.3 percent of Kansas live births were first births. Of the 14,759 first births, 55.5 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. ([Table 17](#), [Figure 14](#))

In 2004, 88.6 percent of Kansas live births were to white mothers, 7.1 percent were to black mothers, and 4.3 percent were to mothers of other races. Furthermore, 51.3 percent of Kansas live births were male and 48.7 percent were female. ([Table 18](#))

In 2004, there were 12,897 out-of-wedlock births to Kansas residents. Of those births, 67.9 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. For comparison, in 1995, 72.5 percent of the 9,594 out-of-wedlock births occurred to women in this age-group. ([Table 19](#))

The out-of-wedlock birth ratio has continued an upward trend over the years in both Kansas and the U.S. Out-of-wedlock births comprised 32.6 percent of all live births that occurred to Kansas residents in 2004, a 25.9 percent increase from 25.9 percent of live births in 1995. ([Table 1](#), [Figure 15](#))

The pregnancy rate for females ages 10-19 decreased 24.3 percent from 34.5 pregnancies per 1,000 in 1995 to 26.1 in 2004. Teen pregnancy rates for females ages 10-17 decreased 36.0 percent during this same time frame. ([Table 20](#), [Figure 18](#))

In 2004, 87.5 percent of non-teen mothers of live births received prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy, while only 72.0 percent of teen mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. The percent of teens who received no prenatal care (1.1) was higher than that for non-teens (0.6). ([Figure 16](#))

Of the births to teenage women in 2004, 83.8 percent were to whites and 13.1 percent were to blacks. For comparison, in 1995, 81.3 percent of births to teenage women were to whites and 15.7 percent were to blacks. ([Figure 17](#))

Pregnancy Outcomes (Cont.)

Teenage pregnancy rates for black mothers fell more steeply from 1995-2004 than rates for other population groups. The pregnancy rate for black females ages 10-19 decreased 40.9 percent from 73.8 pregnancies per 1,000 in 1995 to 43.6 in 2004. Black teens still have one of the highest rates. Although the rate for Hispanic teens (Hispanic origin may be of any race) (10-19) has declined since 1998, they have the highest rates overall for any population group in 2004. ([Table 21](#))

In 2004, 52.2 percent of the reported stillbirths occurred to mothers in the 20-29 age-group. ([Table 24](#))

Stillbirth rates in 2004 were highest for unmarried mothers: 6.0 per 1,000 live births plus stillbirths. ([Figure 19](#))

In 2004, the abortion ratio for Kansas residents was 151.0 abortions per 1,000 live births, a decrease of 14.7 percent from the 177.0 ratio in 1995. Ratios increased from 1991 to a high of 186.3 in 1996, then generally declined for the next eight years. ([Figure 20](#), [Table 25](#))

The abortion ratio for Kansas residents in 2004 varied substantially by age-group. The ratio per 1,000 live births was highest for women under 20 years of age. Since 1980, the abortion ratio declined for women in age groups under 20 and above 29. ([Figure 21](#))

In 2004, 5,971 abortions were performed for Kansas residents and 5,475 were performed for non-Kansans. Of the 5,971 resident abortions, 89 occurred out of state. ([Figure 23](#), [Tables 25](#) and [27](#))

Of Kansas residents having abortions, 52.4 percent were in the 15-24 age-group, 79.5 percent were unmarried and 75.3 percent were white. ([Figure 23](#), [Table 26](#))

In 2004, 60.5 percent of all reported abortions occurred prior to nine completed weeks of gestational age. Fourteen (14.2) percent of teenage women obtained an abortion after 16 weeks gestation, compared to 7.9 percent of women 20 and older. ([Table 27](#), [Figure 24](#))

Eighty percent (80.4) of all reported abortions in 2004 were to unmarried women. Among black women, 89.1 percent were unmarried, while 78.8 percent of white women and 74.0 percent of Hispanic women (Hispanic origin may be of any race) were unmarried. ([Table 28](#))

Eighty-four percent (83.6) of all reported abortions were performed prior to the 13th week of gestation. Suction curettage was the procedure used in 90.5 percent of these terminations. Only 9.0 percent of induced terminations were performed after 16 weeks gestation, and 49.0 percent of these used dilation and evacuation and 48.7 percent used Digoxin/Induction. ([Table 30](#))

The percentage of women who obtained an abortion early in pregnancy (less than 9 weeks of gestation) increased with age, and the percentage who obtained an abortion late in pregnancy (greater than 21 weeks of gestation) decreased with age for women up to 25-29 years of age and generally increased in older age-groups. ([Figure 25](#))